

# Indiana Voter's Quick Reference Guide



Provided by the Indiana Secretary of State  
and the Indiana Election Division  
Revised July 2006  
[www.sos.in.gov](http://www.sos.in.gov)



# Voting Basics

## Voting Requirements

You have the right to vote in an Indiana election, if:

- You are both a U.S. Citizen and a resident of Indiana
- You will be at least 18 years of age at the next General Election;
- You are registered to vote;
- You have lived in the precinct where you vote for at least 30 days prior to the election;
- You are not currently in prison after being convicted of a crime

## Election Calendar

- **April 3, 2006:** Voter Registration Closes for the 2006 Primary Election
- **May 2, 2006:** Primary Election Day  
(Polls are open 6:00am—6:00pm)
- **May 16, 2006:** Voter Registration Opens for the 2006 General Election
- **October 10, 2006:** Voter Registration Closes for the 2006 General Election
- **October 30, 2006:** Deadline for absentee by mail applications to be received
- **November 7, 2006:** General Election Day  
(Polls are open 6:00am—6:00pm)

# Photo I.D.

## Photo Identification

A voter must provide government-issued photo ID before casting a ballot. The ID must fit the following criteria:

- Your ID must display your photo.
- Your name on the ID must conform with your voter registration record. Conform does NOT mean identical. Below are examples of names that would conform to “Robert John Crew”:
  - Robert John Crew
  - Robert J. Crew
  - Robert Crew
  - R. John Crew
  - Bob John Crew
  - Bob J. Crew
  - Bob Crew
  - John Crew
  - J. Crew
  - R. J. Crew
- Your ID must contain an expiration date and either still be current or have expired sometime *after* the date of the last General Election (November 2, 2004).
  - This also includes Military ID’s listing “INDEF” under expiration date.
- Your ID must be issued by the State of Indiana or the US government.

In most cases, an Indiana driver’s license, Indiana photo ID card, Military ID or US passport is sufficient.

If you are unable or unwilling to present ID meeting these requirements, you may cast a provisional ballot. If you cast a provisional ballot, you have until noon 10 days after the election to follow up with the County Election Board and either provide the necessary documentation or affirm one of the law’s exemptions applies to you.

Exemptions do exist for the indigent, those with a religious objection to being photographed, and individuals living in state-licensed facilities where the precinct’s polling place is also located.

If you do not already have a valid photo ID, you can obtain an Indiana photo ID card **free of charge** from any Bureau of Motor Vehicles branch that issues drivers’ licenses and ID cards. For more information, please contact the BMV at (317) 233-6000 or visit the website <http://www.photoid.in.gov>.

# Absentee Voting

## Absentee Voting

As a registered voter in Indiana, you are eligible to vote **absentee-in-person** at your county election board office.

In order to vote **absentee-by-mail**, you must fit into one of the following criteria:

1. You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 am until 6 pm).
2. You have a disability.
3. You are at least 65 years of age.
4. You will have official election duties outside of your voting precinct.
5. You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open. You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
6. You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
7. You are a participant in the state's address confidentiality program.

# Provisional Ballots

## Provisional Ballots

Provisional voting is a way for a voter to cast a ballot at the polls on Election Day when they are challenged because of one of the situations explained below.

1. If the voter is unable to present photo ID that meets the “proof of identification” requirements.
2. If the **voter’s name does not appear on the poll list** (the voter is not registered to vote in the precinct) unless the voter qualifies to vote using one of the “Fail-Safes” explained in the *Indiana Voter’s Bill of Rights*.
3. The voter’s name appears on the poll list, but the **voter does not currently reside in the precinct** unless the voter qualifies to vote using one of the “Fail-Safes” explained in the *Indiana Voter’s Bill of Rights*.
4. The poll list indicates that the voter is also required to present additional documentation to verify their residency as a first time voter, but is not able to do so.
5. The voter is not a U.S. citizen.
6. The voter will not be 18 years of age or older at the general election  
**NOTE:** *Otherwise qualified 17 year olds may vote in a primary election, but NOT for a school board office, political party office (such as precinct committeeman or state convention delegate) or on a public question voted on at the same time as the primary.*
7. The voter’s signature on the poll list does not match that on the registration record of the county.
8. In a primary, the voter is not affiliated with the party whose ballot the voter is requesting.

**EXCEPTION:** *A voter challenged in a primary due to party affiliation is NOT issued a provisional ballot. If the challenged voter is willing to complete and sign the challenged voter’s affidavit (Form PRE-6; reverse), then the voter is issued the regular ballot of that party, which is NOT kept separate from the undisputed ballots cast in the precinct.*

The voter’s provisional ballot is kept separate from all other ballots cast at the polls on Election Day. After the polls close, the provisional ballot is forwarded to the county election board, which decides whether or not the provisional ballot should be counted.

If you do cast a provisional ballot, you have until noon 10 days after the election, (until May 12th for the Primary Election on May 2nd, and until November 17th for the General Election on November 7th), to present a proper form of photo ID.

## Election Resources

### **Indiana Secretary of State**

201 State House  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
317.232.6536 (Secretary of State)  
317.233.3283 (Fax)  
[constituent@sos.in.gov](mailto:constituent@sos.in.gov)  
[www.sos.IN.gov](http://www.sos.IN.gov)

### **Indiana Election Division**

Co-Directors:  
J. Bradley King and Kristi Robertson  
302 West Washington Street, Room E204  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
317.232.3939 (Election Division)  
317.232.6793 (Fax)  
[www.in.gov/sos/elections](http://www.in.gov/sos/elections)

### **HAVA Training and Education**

Julia Bauler  
HAVA Education and Outreach Director  
302 West Washington Street, Room E-111  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
317.232.6541 (Telephone)  
317.233.3675 (Fax)  
[jbauler@sos.in.gov](mailto:jbauler@sos.in.gov)